

**MINUTES
EAGAR TOWN COUNCIL
REGULAR MEETING
22 W. 2nd St., Eagar, AZ
April 19, 2011 – 7:00 P.M.**

Mayor Kim Holaway called the meeting to order and welcomed those present. Mayor Kim Holaway led the Pledge of Allegiance and offered the invocation. Mayor Kim Holaway said to let the record show that all council members were present.

COUNCIL PRESENT: Kim Holaway, Mayor
 James Nelson, Vice-Mayor
 Steve Erhart
 Gary Finch
 Debbie Rogers
 Byron Smith
 Tim Rasmussen

STAFF PRESENT: Bill Greenwood, Town Manager
 Bruce Ray, Community Development Director
 Mike Hogan, Chief of Police
 Marion Wiltbank, Assistant Town Clerk

ITEM #5: SUMMARY OF CURRENT EVENTS

A. MAYOR

The Chrome in the Dome was a really good show.

The Boys and Girls Club we are starting a club in Round Valley. The location is in the old Day Care building on Butler and 3rd Ave just north of Ramsey Park on the corner. We are doing fundraisers and want to hire a director and get the curriculum so we can offer our Round Valley youth a program. The program is open to any students who live in the Round Valley Unified School District boundaries. And will include all of those students' ages 6 to 18 years old. You can check with Councilman Rasmussen, or me, we are both on the board as well as Steve Christensen and Melissa Webb are co-chairs of the board.

The Centennial Park Committee met yesterday and we have quite a bite of volunteerism happening with that. Saturday, May 21st will be a Community Work Day at the Centennial Park. Hoping that we can plant our flowers on Main Street in our planters. The Community Challenge grant is going to allow us to purchase approximately 50 trees to plant on Main Street that day, also. We invite everyone to come out.

B. COUNCIL

Councilor Debbie Rogers helped at the Easter Eggstavanza Egg Hunt. Wanted to brag on Marion Wiltbank on the Easter Egg Hunt event and everyone had a lot of fun. We figured there were 250 to 300 kids. Only 30 kids showed up last year. This year it was beautiful

weather, so it was a crazy day. I talked to Mr. Dan Muth from Springerville who is on the Springerville Town Council and he asked her to let Springerville partner with the Town of Eagar next year on the Egg Hunt. A great turn out of kids and we only had 1000 eggs for the kids to hunt. People came up to her and told her there were lots of St. Johns people there too.

Councilor Byron Smith reported on the Chrome in the Dome that was held last Saturday, April 16th. There were 87 cars there this year, 20 less than last year. A lot of people came to see the cars and the vendors did really well. There were people here from all over. Mayor Kim Holaway said that the Centennial Copper Chopper was there and the radio station out of Show Low. The Boys and Girls Club made \$700 on their Navajo Taco lunch.

C. STAFF

Town Manager Bill Greenwood said the Round Valley Transportation (P.A.R.A. grant) met last week and as a result, scheduled a joint meeting for May 12, 2011. Which would include a chance for the public to see what has been discussed and the public could make comments on the plan, so they can take those comments and make their final draft. Mayor Kim Holaway will contact Mayor Baca on the format of that meeting. It will be a joint council meeting presentation and a time for public comments, so we would like to have all of our Eagar and Springerville residents out for that. It is a regional transportation study for both towns, as it is a joint grant that we have received. Round Valley Transportation Study P.A.R.A. grant public meeting on Thursday, May 12, 2011 at 6:00 p.m. in this Eagar Council Chamber room.

ITEM #6: OPEN CALL TO THE PUBLIC

Jolean Holliday from the Round Valley Primary School addressed the Council about the Big Top School Carnival on Friday, April 29th from 5:30 till 7:30 p.m. at the Primary School. It is a night of fun, games, and activities for the community. The Town of Springerville donated money to help purchase prizes for the kids. We have over 50 booths that the kids have fun at. It offers the kids something to do, running the cotton candy machine, shaved ice machine, high school tech computer class comes in and builds a haunted house for us. Over 600 people came through the doors last year. There are booths for people to offer information to the community, Headstart comes, Forest Service has a lot of educational stuff. If the Town of Eagar would like to help with prizes or a booth that would be appreciated. This is the 6th Annual Bouncing Under the Big Top carnival. Each game is 25¢ to play. Would like to get the Town of Eagar involved. Mayor Kim Holaway said that the town does not do donations but most of us here give individual donations.

Becki Christensen, Chamber Director reported on the Chrome in the Dome. Last year we had 105 cars and this year 87 cars were at the event. A 1000 people came through the doors. The booths there were: Boy & Girls Club made \$700; a girl that was going on a mission to the Ukraine this summer to work in an orphanage made around \$200; a Boy Scout was there to earn money for his Eagle project; a Chamber booth where brochures were available; an Apache County Women's Health booth to help women who do not have insurance and fall within a certain age can get some free services. You could view the Copper Chopper. Vendors told her they felt there was not enough opportunity within Round Valley for them to sell their goods. The

Chamber is working on an Arts & Crafts Fair, so the vendors can make some money. We spent \$8,400 in our community for trophies and all of the expenses we had for the Chrome in the Dome. Restaurants and Motels said that there was an increase in business this weekend. 15% of the cars were local and if you count regional, Pinetop/Lakeside, Alpine and St. Johns 45% of the cars were from our area and 55% came from out of the area.

Events coming up:

- Mixer April 21st to celebrate the end of tax season at Rode Inn and Suites from 6:00 – 7:30 p.m.
- Ribbon cutting, Tuesday, April 26th for Team Clean from 5:30p.m.-7:30 p.m. in the Udall room at Springerville Town Hall..
- Round Valley Business Summit is brought to you by the Towns of Eagar and Springerville, the Round Valley Unified School District and the Springerville-Eagar Chamber of Commerce and will be held Thursday, April 28, 2011 at the Round Valley High School Auditorium starting at 6:00 p.m. The public is invited. Business Consultant and marketing expert, Tony Kyle will be facilitating the meeting. 28 people are already registered for the event.
- On Thursday, April 28, 2011 at 8:00 a.m., the send off for the Special Olympics to State. They will parade through town with the Fire Department.

Tourism has increased. St. Johns is completely filled up and the overflow is coming over here.

ITEM #7: UNFINISHED BUSINESS

A. DISCUSSION AND CONSIDERATION OF ANY ACTION TO BE TAKEN ON LEGISLATIVE ISSUES

Mayor Kim Holaway said Thursday is the 100th day of this Legislative Session. They passed many bills intending to take away local control without effecting the state budget, which should be a major concern. Councilman Steve Erhart and Mayor Holaway did call Senator Allen about Senate Bill 1322, both have not received a response. Councilor Erhart said that they are asking municipalities with \$500,000 people or more to go out for bid for projects total cost of \$75,000 or greater but they are proposing to move it down to every municipality regardless of population. The very thing that the state is complaining about the federal government trying to make decisions at the state level and now the state is trying to do the same thing to the local level. Mayor Holaway said it could be a project that you could do in-house but if the total project is \$75,000 or more, you have to bid it out and a lot of those bids might go to businesses in Phoenix or Tucson so then we would end up not having enough work for our own employees and the ultimate end result would be that we could lose jobs in the rural areas. The Senator from Tucson that introduces this bill said that Tucson and Phoenix are just the pilots and next year we think that they will come back and the other 89 cities and towns in Arizona will be effected by this. Not getting any input back from our Senators or representatives, no communication going back and forth.

Councilor Debbie Rogers had talked to Senator Allen and she had said that the impact fees were going to be okay and Councilor Rogers wanted to know why Senator Allen had passed

off on the impact fees bill. Councilor Rogers will try to contact her to find out about it. Mayor Holaway said so far the Governor has not signed off on it. It will freeze our impact fees for 20 years and some of it doesn't go into effect till 2014.

Community Development Director Bruce Ray said that the Fireworks bill also past. We will have to change our ordinance. We might be able to challenge them on fire danger.

Councilor Steve Erhart asked about any update on the annexation? Had not heard any more on it.

Mayor Kim Holaway said a positive was the work on the pension reform. The Arizona Republic had reported in a fall study of the government pensions in Arizona and some of them are troubled. They are making some changes to the Public Safety Retirement and a little bit to the State Retirement and to the Elected Officials Retirement fund.

ITEM #8: NEW BUSINESS

A. DISCUSSION AND CONSIDERATION OF REQUEST TO APPEAL MINOR LAND SPLIT DENIAL

Mayor Holaway moved to table this agenda item because the Town Attorney Doug Brown is not at the meeting. She had previously discussed this with Town Manager Bill Greenwood and had decided that when we are discussing land we should have our legal counsel here. Will place this agenda item on a future council agenda.

Mayor Kim Holaway made the motion to table this agenda item, to appeal minor land split denial. Seconded by Councilor Steve Erhart and all were in favor (vote 6-0). Councilor Time Rasmussen abstained from voting, as it was a conflict of interest.

B. EXPLANTION AND DISCUSSION OF HUD PLANNING PROCESS

Town Manager Bill Greenwood said the two handouts in the council agenda packet explain the actual process. The Steering Committee will do the strategic planning process during the plan week. Councilor Debbie Rogers asked if it started Monday, the 16th of May? Mr. Greenwood said yes. Mr. Greenwood said there was a planning grant that was applied for from HUD, for each community in Navajo and Apache Counties. So each community will do a community plan and the main emphasis is on economic development, housing issues, etc. The steering committee plan is presented to the public for their ideas and the council will approve the plan, then our plan will be given to the consultant. The consultant that has been hired to do this planning process takes all the communities' plans to make sense of them and how we can cooperate as a region. What is important in our plan might not make sense with St. Johns or Springerville. How can we cooperate to improve the economy or transportation or whatever issues we have. Out of nine plans would come a regional plan. The council will appoint a steering committee of 12-15 people from the community who will meet with the consultant and will go through a questionnaire and based on those questions there are 25 different strategies that work in rural areas, we can modify or adjust. That information will then be presented at a council meeting where the public is invited to attend

and give their input, then that information goes back to the steering committee and the consultant. On Wednesday, the steering committee and the consultant will fine tune the plan by making the changes based on the comment from the public and council and develop a final draft of the plan, that will then come back to the council.

The Regional Plan includes all the nine incorporated towns/cities in Navajo and Apache Counties.

Mayor Kim Holaway opened the meeting up to the public for their input:

Jim Finch, Jr. lives out on Big Lake Road – you get everybody’s input and make a plan that one sizes fits all. Is that what I am hearing?

Councilor Debbie Rogers said that every community/city makes their own plan and then it goes to the region and how we can implement, incorporate and enhance maybe what Eagar’s plan might be also what Navajo County is doing. Every community makes their own individual plan. Town Manager Bill Greenwood said if we do nothing else but this plan, this will give us some goals and things to be working on for economic development. The common elements of that, for example Sunrise Ski Resort, it effects the entire region. So what can we be doing with Pinetop/Lakeside, Show Low or Greer to increase that draw of tourism; that would be part of the regional plan. We can say what we want to be involved in and there are probably half a dozen of these issues that would be a common element. We can determine what we want to work on.

Jim Finch, Jr. wanted to make sure that we would not be forced to do something we didn’t want to do.

Councilor Debbie Rogers said that the three tribes, and the Apache Tribe, Hopi Tribe and Navajo Tribe will come up with their own individual plans.

Town Manager Bill Greenwood said the agreement is that nothing in anybody else’s plan can be forced on any other community.

Karalea Cox, lives on 4th Street – is in support of this plan. Appreciates her neighbors, that they are here and that they are concerned and asking questions. This plan will be effective if we continue to have that kind of individual input. Not only will this plan be individualized but because of that community input, I also believe that what we are going to discover is that we have a few more things in common with some of our neighboring towns and cities than we thought. They might simply be issues that we all need to tackle, we might find that not only are we needing to collaborate more on some economic development opportunities, we might find we want to collaborate on a few political things, a few legislative things that are coming our way, that impact all of us. As a collective regional force that has a lot more power than just an individual municipality. She is serving on a consortium representing the college and as a resident of Eagar and would like to serve on this committee.

Jim Finch, Jr. asked first of all who is the consultant?

Town Manager Bill Greenwood said his name is Brian Kohl who is from eastern Oregon from a rural community, whose county population is less than Apache County. So he is familiar with rural issues.

Jim Finch, Jr. asked if this was a grant? Does anybody consider what happens when the State and Federal can't do a budget and pay their own bills and these grants are State and Federal and we are in the middle of a two or three projects that maybe amount to \$100,000 or more and all of a sudden there is no money and we have already put money out for them? Just how broke can this little old town become? I don't agree with grants. I think it is like living off of somebody else's money. That they have the opportunity and the right to pull them and leave us high and dry. I think we need to consider that.

Jim Finch, Jr. asked does this have anything to do with the Sustainable Development? Town Manager Bill Greenwood said that sustainable is used in a lot of titles. This is not part of United Nations Agenda 21. Jim Finch said it does follow the agenda, because it is outside interests trying to control our little community and regional planning. We need to be very careful about that, we need to think about how deep we are getting with somebody else controlling, before we do.

Vice-Mayor James Nelson said he shares a lot of his concerns, but we understand where the money is coming from and how financially messed up the federal government is and the state is following suit and they are asking a lot of the individual citizens. We discuss it continually and it is always in my mind and my greatest concern is to protect the citizens of the Town of Eagar and every time I make a decision it is based upon that, trying to protect the citizens of Eagar.

Jim Finch, Jr. said I understand that you are elected to be trusted and I appreciate that. I am very concerned that the last place on earth I want to see adopt any kind of socialism whatsoever is Eagar, Arizona, so please keep that in mind.

Mary McNab, Blue, New Mexico – all these grants sound good but grants have stipulations, strings attached to them. What are the parameters? What are they mandating? Town Manager Bill Greenwood said with this particular grant we are obligated to provide a plan. In the verbiage they can't change the plan, they can make suggestions to us, but all we have to do is say, here is what we as a community have decided is our plan.

Mary McNab – so they have no specific elements that they are asking? Town Manager Bill Greenwood said that the trick is that from this plan we can identify some thing we will want to do. So when we try to get money for that that is where they will try to tie the strings. So we will have to be real careful if we want to fund some of these projects. Maybe if it is that important, do we bond for it, do we put a property tax for it, or do we do something to use federal money for it? So we can decide how important that concept is. Mary McNab said you kind of lose your total control then. Town Manager Bill Greenwood said that in this contract all we have to provide is a plan. That's the only thing we are required to do. Mary McNab said she had been reading up on regional planning, and often people from other areas that have experience; directing what we can do, facilitate it. Town Manager Bill Greenwood said Arizona Town Hall is a citizens think tank and they discuss health care, transportation

and what we should do. They search around for someone to talk and to discuss a particular issue. Brian Kohl was invited to come and discuss Economic Development. He was recognized in Oregon for what he had done in rural communities, so he came to do a presentation. Mr. Hank Rogers was at that Town Hall meeting and he was the only other rural person in that whole conference and they hit it off. When this opportunity-grant application came out Mr. Rogers contacted him to work on it.

Town Manager Bill Greenwood said when we work on economic development we are competing against the Phoenix metro area and the Show Low, Pinetop/Lakeside, Snowflake area. In order to compete you need to work with all that have similar interests. Navajo County was developing a regional plan and half way through it they decided to include Apache County, because we share some common struggles. So a year ago representatives from each of the communities started a Regional Development group that has been already established without any federal money. If a business wants to locate in the area it goes out to everybody. It is businesses and communities working together. We have to watch out for ourselves and do what is right for our own individual community. Town Manager Bill Greenwood said tourism is a big development issue that we share. We want to keep people in the area several days, to help all the economies in area. Other economic issues that we have in common: Energy – what can we do? Forest- how can we expand it?

C. DISCUSSION AND CONSIDERATION FOR THE EAGAR COUNCIL TO NAME MEMBERS TO THE STEERING COMMITTEE FOR THE HUD PLANNING PROCESS

Town Manager Bill Greenwood had asked his department heads for some names. So he would appreciate the names that we have missed, that council thinks would be viable be mentioned. If everyone would write them down and then circle the 12 on the list that you want. The staff will then tabulate the votes and go down the list asking them to participate by highest vote priority, until we have 15 committed to attend the three morning meetings. It is a three-day commitment.

Added to the list were the names of:

Karalea Cox	LaVerl Ashcroft
Scott Hamblin	Voight LeSueur
Jim Finch, Jr.	Fred Harper
Debbie Rogers	Mike Chavez
Calvin Walker	James Nelson

The Community Plan Coordinator is Town Manager Bill Greenwood.

ITEM #9: SIGNING OF DOCUMENTS

No documents to sign.

ITEM #10: ADJOURNMENT

Councilor Gary Finch moved to adjourn the Council meeting at 8:05 p.m. Councilor Steve Erhart seconded; all were in favor, motion carried unanimously. Vote 7-0

Regular Council Minutes 4/19/11

Attest: _____

Mayor: _____

Vice-Mayor: _____

Council: _____

CERTIFICATION OF COUNCIL MINUTES

I hereby certify that the foregoing minutes are true and correct copy of the minutes of the Regular session of the Town of Eagar, Arizona held on April 19, 2011. I further certify that the meeting was duly called and held and that a quorum was present.

Marion Wiltbank, Assistant Town Clerk